

# PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

# PCT

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference <b>10386/E</b>	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> <small>see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.</small>	
International application No. <b>PCT/EP2004/052647</b>	International filing date (day/month/year) <b>25/10/2004</b>	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) <b>29/10/2003</b>
Applicant  <b>ALI S.P.A. - CARPIGIANI GROUP</b>		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

**1. Basis of the report**

a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. ☐ With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box II).

3. ☐ Unity of invention is lacking (see Box III).

4. With regard to the title,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regards to the drawings,

a. the figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 1

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

b. ☐ none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/EP2004/052647A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
IPC 7 A23G9/28 A23G9/04

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 A23G

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	EP 0 599 140 A (CARPIGIANI SRL) 1 June 1994 (1994-06-01) column 2, line 17 - column 3, line 55; claims 1,4; figures	1,2,4
Y	EP 0 701 777 A (LUMEN GMBH) 20 March 1996 (1996-03-20) column 2, line 18 - column 3, line 20; claim 1; figure 8	1,2,4
A	US 3 830 407 A (WIERLO E) 20 August 1974 (1974-08-20) abstract; claim 1; figures 3,4	1
A	WO 98/31238 A (FREELAND SERVICES LIMITED ; MORRIS WATSON MICHAEL EDWARD (GB)) 23 July 1998 (1998-07-23) abstract; figure 2	1
	----- -/--	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents:

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

\*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

\*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

\*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

\*G\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

14 January 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

21/01/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2260 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Gaïser, M

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/EP2004/052647

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>EP 0 728 417 A (CARPIGIANI GROUP ALI SPA)  28 August 1996 (1996-08-28)  abstract; claim 1; figure 2  -----</p>	1

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/052647

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0599140	A	01-06-1994	IT	1257461 B	25-01-1996
			AT	147236 T	15-01-1997
			BR	9304823 A	28-06-1994
			DE	69307281 D1	20-02-1997
			DE	69307281 T2	15-05-1997
			DK	599140 T3	16-06-1997
			EP	0599140 A1	01-06-1994
			ES	2095548 T3	16-02-1997
			GR	3022230 T3	30-04-1997
			JP	2772905 B2	09-07-1998
			JP	6237698 A	30-08-1994
			RU	2069955 C1	10-12-1996
			US	5382090 A	17-01-1995
EP 0701777	A	20-03-1996	DE	4429077 A1	22-02-1996
			AT	214235 T	15-03-2002
			DE	59510106 D1	18-04-2002
			EP	0701777 A2	20-03-1996
			ES	2173934 T3	01-11-2002
			JP	8056581 A	05-03-1996
US 3830407	A	20-08-1974	CA	989634 A1	25-05-1976
			NL	7309112 A	02-01-1974
WO 9831238	A	23-07-1998	AU	5671398 A	07-08-1998
			WO	9831238 A1	23-07-1998
EP 0728417	A	28-08-1996	IT	GE950019 A1	26-08-1996
			EP	0728417 A2	28-08-1996